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CITY NEWS

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Volume 12, Number 31

Serving New Jersey's African-American Community Since 1983

Maay 8 - May 14, 1996

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SAVE THE MCCREARY REPORT

by Gerald W. Deas, M.D.

Recently, Fox TV, Channel 5, has given the air to a great African-American news program, *The McCreary Report*. This program was a platform for serious political, social, religious and medical dialogue for over two years. It has been appreciated and listened to by thousands of African-Americans who would have no place to present and discuss crucial and critical subjects concerning our survival. No other major TV station has presented an African-American news program.

As an African-American physician, I have been able to give relevant medical advice to our community. It was not for

See SAVE MCCREARY PAGE 10

CROATIANS UNCOOPERATIVE IN BROWN RESCUE MISSION

by Laura Myers

WASHINGTON, DC (AP)—A raging storm, misinformation and Croatian roadblocks led to a frustrating series of futile attempts by the U.S. military to reach the wreckage of Commerce Secretary Ron Brown's plane. By the time Americans got there—a half day late—the bodies had already been counted, according to a document obtained by *The Associated Press*.

Croatian police had taken such control of the search-and-rescue that they kept the U.S. commander waiting at a roadblock for an hour, said the U.S. military log of the crash that killed 35 people, including 33 Americans.

The log, a 16 1/2-hour, detailed account of the U.S. military response to the April 3 tragedy, outlines in 87 terse entries a fruitless search in the Adriatic, helicopters fighting sleet, rain and wind to try to reach the crash and an interminable wait for a commander and ground troops.

At one point, when Croatian police found a survivor, a U.S. helicopter made three heroic tries to fly in rescuers, "but had to abort" because of wind and rain. Another helicopter crew, tired of waiting for a break in the weather, was told to commandeer trucks to drive up the rugged mountain to the crash site.

"Unable to obtain vehicles," the log said. So they waited for Brig. Gen. Mike Chanavan, the U.S. commander of the search-and-rescue operation out of Brindisi, Italy.

Chanavan arrived at Dubrovnik with U.S. special forces commandos at 10:55 p.m., eight hours after the plane had disappeared from radar and three hours after the Croatian police had reached the crash site and found the only survivor, a woman who

See RESCUE/PAGE 10

STATE TO RECEIVE \$18.4 MILLION FOR SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT

TRENTON—Labor Commissioner Peter J. Caldore announced recently that New Jersey will receive \$18.4 million in federal funds to operate this year's Summer Youth Employment and Training Program.

Caldore said the funds, which are provided under the Federal Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA), will provide employment to approximately 13,235 young persons from economically disadvantaged families.

Last year, New Jersey received \$23.4 million in JTPA funds and provided employment for 16,000 youths under the 1994 summer employment program.

New Jersey Labor Department was informed by the US Department of

See SUMMER PROGRAM page 3

NEW JERSEY'S TOP PLAYERS HONORED AT GALA EVENT

Here they are, our state's 100 most influential and positive individuals who have contributed effortlessly to uplifting urban communities, children and the needy. Last Thursday's gala event at the Newark Marriott Hotel was a tremendous success, attended by well over 500 people.



PEOPLE

Community Calendar

WEDNESDAYS

BELLE MEAD—A Motherless Daughters Support Group meets from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the Career Center for Counseling. For more info call 908-281-1599.

SATURDAYS

NEW YORK—Spirit Cruises presents its 1996 Gospel Cruise Series aboard the Spirit of New York and Spirit of New Jersey. For more info call 212-727-7768 or 201-867-6201.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 8

EDISON—Middlesex County College hosts the annual Middlesex County Job Opportunity Fair and Career Explosion from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

NEWARK—The Regional Business Partnership Community Development Series invites you to preview The New Jersey Performing Arts Center, 9 to 9:30 a.m. For more info call 201-242-6237 ext. 225.

THURSDAY, MAY 9

MADISON—William Bennett to speak at The New Jersey Forum at 8 p.m. at Drew University. For more info call 201-226-FORUM.

MAY 9 AND 14

NEWARK—The Newark Literacy Campaign will hold volunteer training and orientations. For more info call 201-623-4001.

FRIDAY, MAY 10

NEWARK—The Family Life Institute of Planned Parenthood and Healthy Mothers/Healthy Babies co-sponsor "Reach and Teach Through New Techniques" conference from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the University of Medicine and Dentistry. For more info call 201-622-3900 ext. 215.

SATURDAY, MAY 12

NEW YORK—Spirit Cruises presents

Mother's Day cruises on the Spirit of New York, Spirit of New Jersey, and Spirit of the Hudson. For more info call 212-727-7768 or 201-867-5518.

MONDAYS AND THURSDAYS

CRANFORD—A Citizenship Preparation courses will be offered at Union County College Elizabeth Campus. For info call 908-709-7600.

TUESDAYS THRU MAY 16

PLAINFIELD—A Citizenship Preparation courses will be offered at Union County College Plainfield Campus. For info call 908-709-7600.

FRIDAY, MAY 17

TINTON FALLS—A Pastathon to benefit families and children living with HIV/AIDS at the Church of St. Anselm at 7 p.m. For more info call 908-774-3416.

SATURDAY, MAY 18

TINTON FALLS—A Bikeathon to benefit families and children living with HIV/AIDS at the Church of St. Anselm at 8:30 a.m. For more info call 908-774-3416.

THRU MAY 19

NEW YORK/Delaware Productions & Company presents "Cherry, Suffereth Long..." at the American Theater of Actors. For more info call 201-676-2352.

SUNDAY, MAY 19

TINTON FALLS—An AIDS Walkathon to benefit families and children living with HIV/AIDS hosted by the Church of St. Anselm starting at The Tavern Pavilion 1 p.m. For more info call 908-774-3416.

SUNDAY, MAY 19-21

ATLANTIC CITY/The New Jersey Association of School Administrators is holding its annual spring conference at Bally's Park Place Casino. For info call 609-599-2900.

Mayors' board of directors sworn in



The New Jersey Conference of Mayors' Board of Directors was sworn in recently by Gov. Christine Todd Whitman during the organization's 33rd annual conference, held April 10-12 at the Trump Taj Mahal in Atlantic City.

\$25,000 grant available for outstanding contributions on behalf of children

NEWARK—The Association for Children of New Jersey (ACNJ) is accepting nominations for the 1996 Friend of Children Award honoring a program that has made an outstanding contribution to the betterment of children in the Garden State.

The \$25,000 award is sponsored by the Turrell Fund of Montclair in memory of S. Whitney Landon, the former chairman of the Fund. The deadline for applications is June 1.

In order to qualify, the program or activity must take place, or have taken place in Essex, Hudson, Passaic or Union County.

Enhances the quality of life for babies, children or adolescents and their families in their neighborhood and community.

Provides care and nurture to children at their site or brings their program to children with special needs.

Involves the community in efforts to make a positive impact on the lives of children and youth people through recreation, education, corrective development or vocational training.

For more information or applications, call Barbara Ripp at 201-643-

Dr. Gracia to lead Beth Israel's geriatric program



NEWARK—Anna Marie Gracia, M.D., M.P.H. of Newark, has been named associate director in charge of the outpatient Center For Geriatric Health Care at Newark Beth Israel Medical Center. Gracia comes to the center after completing fellowship training in geriatric medicine at Newark Beth Israel Medical Center recently. Prior to that, She was a staff physician for the Veterans Administration Medical Center in East Orange. She completed her residency in Internal Medicine in 1982 at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey in Newark and her Public Health Administration residency in 1987 at Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center in New York City. Pictured above Dr. Gracia takes blood pressure of one of the geriatric patients.

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- No points.
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Term 15-years	Fixed-Rate 1 year	Fixed-Rate 3 years	Fixed-Rate 5 years	Current variable rate**
Introductory fixed rate	6.99%	7.49%	7.99%	9.25%
After-tax rate**	4.47%	4.79%	5.11%	5.92%

* Interest is usually tax deductible; please consult your tax advisor.

** The after-tax examples assume a 36% tax bracket; your after-tax advantage may differ from the examples shown.

Based on the current prime rate of 8.25% + 1% margin. This program is available only to new equity credit line customers or those who have had no credit line at Investors Savings Bank in the six months prior to application. You may borrow up to \$100,000; your credit line and balance of your first mortgage may not exceed 75% of the value of your house. After the fixed-rate introductory period, the interest rate of the loan becomes variable and changes to 1% over the prime rate for the life of the loan. Maximum interest rate is 15%.

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SPRINGFIELD
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SPRING LAKE HEIGHTS
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TOMES RIVER
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UNION
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UNION:
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Grant and Smith honored with community leaders

NEPTUNE—Solid Gold Productions presented An Evening To Celebrate to honor the historical contributions of Black women and men in the local community. The affair held in the Martin Luther King, Jr. Presbyterian Church, honored twenty seven individuals and two organizations.

Quality of Life Ministry Achievement Awards were presented to the following: Thomas S. Smith, Jr., law service; United Brothers of Long Branch, community service; Jim Hunt, business service; Dina Todd, municipal service; Hazel Samuels, civic service; Asbury Park Mayor Carl Williams, political service; Robert West, community service; Ebie Thomas, community service; Rev. Vernon Matthews, community service; Thomas and Maxine Daniels, community service; Asbury Park Police Detective Valerie Williams, law enforcement; Assemblyman Thomas S. Smith, Sr., political service; Asbury Park Neptune NAACP President Howard West, community service; American Legion Post 266, civic service; Rev. Dr. Vernon McGowan, Jr., Esq., community service; Asbury Park Police Lt. Rashid



Assemblyman Thomas S. Smith, Sr. (l) recipient of the Excellence in Political Service Award, and City News writer Avery Grant who received the Excellence in Journalism Award, congratulate each other.

Khan, community service; Todd Puryear, municipal service; City News Writer Avery Grant, journalism; Nation of Islam Minister John Muhammad, community service; State Legislative Aide Robert Harrison, governmental service; Beverly Smith, business service; Daisy King, business service; Neptune Patrolman Larry Fisher, law enforcement; Benjamin Evans and La Barbara Watts, Youth United for Chris leaders, community service; Warren Hall, community service; Ebiel James, community service; Foster Day, community service; and John Westbrook, education.

BROOKDALE COMMUNITY COLLEGE INFORMATION SESSION

Brookdale's "Stars" will be your hosts and hostesses at a special Information Session

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National News at a Glance

STUDY: BLACK MEN MOST LIKELY TO DIE OF CANCER

Black men are still the Americans most likely to get and die of cancer, according to a study conducted by the National Cancer Institute. The study showed that the rates for black men getting cancer were slightly up. It found that black men had a general cancer rate of 560 cases per 100,000 people and a cancer death rate of 319 per 100,000, the highest for any of the measured groups, wire services reported. Statistics released last year, in contrast, showed a cancer rate of 557 per 100,000 and a cancer death rate of 316 per 100,000 for black males, according to the wire services. The study covered a five-year period, from 1988 to 1992.

—WASHINGTON, DC

NEW BALTIMORE CONGRESSMAN SWORN IN; REPLACES MUMFEE

Maryland State Delegate Elijah Cummings (D) was recently sworn into Congress, replacing Kweisi Mfume. "My mission is one that comes out of vision that was created long, long ago," he told reporters. "It is a mission and a vision to empower people," said the new member of the House of Representatives. At the swearing-in ceremony, presided over by House Speaker Morris G. Thompson (R-Ga.), Cummings, who was made Speaker pro tem of the Maryland House last year, hugged Mfume while former Rep. Parren Mitchell, the state's first black congressman, looked on. Mfume, a former chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus, left Congress in the middle of his fifth term last February to become president and CEO of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. Cummings, who resigned his state post to take the congressional seat he won in a special election, will have to run again on Nov. 5.

—BALTIMORE, MD

KLAN SUPPORT DIMS ANTI-AFFIRMATIVE ACTION BILL'S FUTURE

The Ku Klux Klan's recent support for an anti-affirmative action bill in Delaware may doom it. The KKK recently left racist leaflets on cars in a North Wilmington neighborhood to show its support of the legislation. The flyer had an offensive drawing of a black man and a racist message to support anti-affirmative action legislation which would end racial and gender preferential programs in state jobs, public contracts and public education. The leaflets say the legislation "is your only opportunity to stop these insane policies of affirmative action by the State of Delaware." Keith Booker, president of the state NAACP, told the Associated Press that the legislation "sends a racist message to all Delawareans. And groups like the Ku Klux Klan and other individuals who hold racist attitudes and beliefs, they can very easily use the cover of affirmative action as a way to voice their racist beliefs and philosophies."

—DELAWARE

BLACK PUBLISHER SIPHONED OFF CASH, JURY FINDS

A New York State Supreme Court jury recently found that Wilbert A. Tatum, publisher of The New York Amsterdam News, diverted more than \$1 million from the paper for his personal use between 1985 and 1993. Tatum has the majority of shares in the paper and controls it along with a five-member board of directors that includes his wife and lawyer, the Associated Press reported. John Edmonds, a minority shareholder in AmNews Corp., the newspaper's parent company, filed the suit against Tatum 13 years ago, charging he put relatives on the payroll and channeled money to himself through useless real estate holdings and services.

—NEW YORK

See NEWS page 10

NATION

AT&T donates \$3.2 million grant to United Way

BASKING RIDGE—The AT&T Foundation announced a \$1.9 million grant to United Way of Tri-State, matching last year's donation despite announced reductions of AT&T's workforce and restructuring into three separate companies.

"AT&T has a long history of strong corporate citizenship," said Jack McMaster, AT&T President of the Atlantic states and the company's Chairperson for United Way of Tri-State. "The corpora-

tion is giving the corporate grants on behalf of all three companies.

"AT&T is the single largest contributor of employee and corporate gifts to the United Way of Tri-State," said Betty Beene, president and CEO of the United Way of Tri-State. "Given this tradition of commitment to our communities, the decision to continue corporate support at this level comes as no surprise. This is wonderful news for the people in need in our area."

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"Our employees remain active and caring participants in the communities where they live and work," said McMaster. "We're proud to continue AT&T's tradition of community involvement and support of the United Way."

Sixteen New Jersey United Way chapters will share part of the \$628,000 Tri-State grant and an additional \$2.6 million through employee contributions.

Nationally, the AT&T Founda-

tion is awarding \$7.2 million in grants to 130 local United Way's the same amount as last year. AT&T employees also United Ways matched their last year contribution.

The AT&T Foundation gives \$42 million a year to nonprofit organizations around the world. In 1995, New Jersey received approximately \$3.2 million in additional funding for education, arts and various community activities.

Hundreds sought for Kemron HIV/AIDS trials

by Gwen Gilmore

WASHINGTON, DC (NNPA)—Some 500 people infected with the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) are being sought to participate in trials sponsored by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) of the African-developed drug Kemron.

The "Kemron Study," otherwise known as "low-dose oral alpha interferon (LDOAI) trials" comes following a drive by the Washington, DC-based Abundant Life Clinic, headed by Dr. Abdul Alim Muhammad, health minister for the Nation of Islam and joined by Dr. Barbara Justice, a New York-based physician and the National Medical Association, which represents African-American doctors.

"We believe this is the dawn of a new era in medicine," Dr. Muhammad said at a recent news conference to announce the trials.

"This has never been done before and taken through the channels over here in America" so that it gets looked

at in a very respectful way. It can truly be said that it is the first clinical trial that is our very own," Dr. Muhammad said.

To be eligible for the trials, which are expected to last 18 months, a person must be 13 or older and have a CD4+T cell count between 50 and 350 cells per cubic millimeter of blood. Call 1-800-TRIALS-A (1-800-874-2575) to participate.

"Volunteers will be randomly assigned to one of four arms (sections)," according to the NIAID. "All of the participants will receive three compounds for six-month period. In three of the arms, volunteers will each receive one active compound and two placebos.

"People in the fourth arm will receive only placebos. While in the study, patients will be allowed to take antiretroviral drugs and therapies against opportunistic diseases. Neither the patients nor the doctors will know until the study is completed which substances the patient got," NIAID guidelines state.

The New York Medical Center Macy Pavilion and SUNY/Health Services Center at Brooklyn and University of Pennsylvania Medical Center are included in the nationwide participants.

Alpha interferon, which is known by the trade names Kemron and Immunex, was first tested as an AIDS medicine in 1990 at the Kenyan Medi-

cal Research Institute (KEMRI) by scientist Dr. Davy Koech.

Patients took low doses of the drug orally and early trials reportedly looked so promising that Kenya President Daniel arap Moi, proclaimed the drug a cure for AIDS.

KEMRI claimed that nearly all patients taking the drug experienced a total reversal of AIDS symptoms and

a dramatic rise in the number of the HIV-fighting CD-4 cells.

However, drug has repeatedly been rejected by several health organizations, including National Institutes of Health and the World Health Organization, saying their data shows interferon is ineffective in treating AIDS.

Gilmore is a reporter for the Washington Afro-American Newspaper.

Converse donates \$100,000 to gun violence prevention program

WASHINGTON, DC—Sarah Brady, Chair of the Center to Prevent Handgun Violence (CPHV), accepted a check for \$100,000 from Converse Inc.'s President Mackey Bell in support of the "Straight Talk About Risks" (STAR) program.

STAR is the nation's premiere gun violence prevention curriculum for grades pre-K through 12, using a comprehensive skill-building approach. This contribution marks the second

year of Converse's three-year commitment to the Converse STAR Team Program.

"As we begin our second year in support of the Center's STAR program, we want to restate our commitment to educating young people about the dangers of guns," stated Bell. "The Converse STAR Team Program, which utilizes our athlete endorsers as role models, communicates this message to young people across the country

through television public service announcements as well as in-school programs and literature."

Launched in 1995, the program is a partnership between Converse Inc. of North Reading, MA, and CPHV's "Straight Talk About Risks" program.

More than 70 municipal school districts are currently using STAR, including Baltimore, Birmingham, Chicago, Cleveland, New York City, Miami (Dade County), and Los Angeles.

New poll puts President Clinton and Dems on top

WASHINGTON, DC—The American people prefer President Clinton to Bob Dole by a wide margin and have more confidence in the President than Republicans when it comes to handling the nation's key problems," according to a new USA Today/CNN poll released recently.

The poll also shows Democrats are in a strong position to re-take the U.S. House of Representatives. Voters prefer Democratic Congressional candidates by a 51 percent to 45 percent margin. Fifty-seven percent disapprove of the way the Republican Congress is doing its job.

"The American people reject this extremist Republican Congress," said DNC National Chairman Don Feder. "They stand with President Clinton in his efforts to protect Medicare, Medicaid, education, and the environment—and to provide tax cuts for working families."

Americans have more confidence in the President than Republicans to handle such key issues as the economy, taxes, health care, welfare, and education. President Clinton leads Senator Dole by a whopping 17 points in a head-to-head matchup. He maintains a strong 14 point lead in a three-way race.

According to DNC General Chairman Chris Dodd, "Voters recognize that Democrats share their priorities and values. The Clinton Administration helped create 8.5 million new jobs in just three-and-a-half years. Democrats stand with American working men and women and their families."

Summer program

Continued from page 1

Labor that it was obligating a total of \$625 million for summer employment programs throughout the country. The obligation was based on the Labor Department's authority under the existing Congressional continuing budget resolution.

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EDITORIAL

In giving you always receive

Over the last three months, the staff of City News has worked to make the City News 100 Most Influential a top drawer event for everyone who attended. By account, we were able to do just that which gave us great satisfaction. Although every award meant a great deal, we were particularly pleased that we were able to honor Ti-Hua Chang.

Ti-Hua was significantly responsible for the conviction of the murderer of civil rights leader, Medger Evers. Although a boy at the time of the murder, Ti-Hua shared with the audience how sad it had made him feel to read about this man being murdered because he wanted equal rights for black people. It lived with him until 29 years later, as a seasoned journalist, he was able to use his skills and abilities to help convict Evers' assassin.

Ti-Hua told the audience that he never received any commendations for his work until now. We are proud that City News played a role in sharing this noble deed. We are all better as a result.

Thank you Ti-Hua for such a courageous act and for sharing it with us.

The CIA: Life Imitating Art?

by Askin Muhammad



There are two television commercials which always catch my eye because of their similarity to real life.

One, advertising a candy bar, shows a baseball left fielder taunting a seemingly endless succession of batters about their lack of ability. Each one hits a homerun, to which the ever-optimistic outfielder replies: "That's alright."

Another, a pants commercial, shows a nervous man in a mall, spotted, then pursued by a gray-suit-wearing secret-agent looking-type, with dark glasses and an in-the-ear walkie-talkie.

When finally caught by the agent-type, the nervous man opens a secret compartment on his ring, and as the door to the elevator he's riding opens, with the agent standing there, he pops the "poison pill" into his mouth, so the agent won't be captured alive. He then says to him: "Nice pants."

If TV commercials can be classified as "art" then we've certainly seen a rash of Washington life imitating art lately.

After starting the season with 11 wins and only two defeats, equalling one of the best starts in American League history, the Baltimore Orioles went on a losing skid which included a 26-7 drubbing at the hands of the Texas Rangers. In one cut-throat inning, the eighth, Texas scored four runs in the major leagues' inaugural TV commercial.

The Central Intelligence Agency, on the other hand, must really give agents on sensitive missions poison pills to take, so they can end their own lives mercifully, not be captured, tortured, and forced to reveal sensitive, mission destroying information.

U-2 aircraft pilot Gary Powers was certainly expected to have taken a pill when his plane was shot down, spying over Russia. Otherwise, President Dwight Eisenhower would not have denied that the U.S. used spy planes

over Russia, certainly not if he knew they had a pilot in custody, and that he had already confessed to the crime.

The Poison Pill, you might say, is a standard CIA technique for the elimination of sensitive personnel, at least when the agents' willingness to do that scheme, I would now add the "mysterious poisoning accident," for agents not so willing.

Former CIA Director William Colby is not the first high ranking official to have an untimely boating mishap. While law enforcement officials found Mr. Colby's capsize canoe near his summer house on Cobb Island, Maryland, his body has not been found (as of this writing). What is especially odd about his disappearance is the fact that when he was discovered missing, authorities found his computer had been left on, and a partially eaten meal was still on his table.

Although I distinctly remember at least three or four instances over the last several years of CIA officials dying alone in boating incidents, I could only find one news report about the occurrence.

Back in October 1978, John A. Paisley's body was found floating in the Chesapeake Bay with a gunshot wound above and behind his left ear. Mr. Paisley, who was 55 at the time of his death, had been missing nearly two weeks. His decomposed body was discovered wearing two scuba diving belts weighing 38 pounds.

Mr. Paisley retired in 1974 from a post with access to "highly sensitive" military secrets as deputy director of the CIA's Office of Strategic Research. The Director of Central Intelligence at that time was William Clark.

Mr. Colby, 76, was appointed in 1973 by President Richard Nixon and fired in 1976 by President Gerald Ford for being too cooperative with lawmakers critical of the agency who were investigating and urging major reforms.

The CIA's problem all along, in my opinion, has been it's extremist tactics and its unrestrained ability to do—in secret—whatever seems to come to the mind of whomever is in charge. When they close your eye, buddy, your life is closed. And that's surely life imitating art? Hardly. Art surely reflects life.

The mysterious death of Ron Brown

by Dorothy Leavell

The month of April has proven to be a landmark one in the realm of African-American history, though in its own course, April 1968 marked the 28th anniversary of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Sadly, it also saw the death, due to cancer, of the first African-American mayor of a major city (Cleveland), Carl Stokes.

One of the most dramatic and surprising April 1996 events, however, was the unexpected death of Secretary of Commerce Ron Brown, perished in a crashed military plane on a mountain top in Croatia, along with a powerhouse of American executives on a business mission to war-torn Bosnia and Croatia.

Secretary Brown was the first African American to hold the post of Secretary of Commerce, and some pundits say that he was the best Secretary of Commerce in the history of the United States. Brown worked tirelessly to open business opportunities between American corporations and foreign governments. Secretary Brown

was a very well-liked, charismatic man.

His power to achieve brought him from the slums of Harlem to the highest halls of power not only in America, but around the world. He was truly a "credit to his race" and demonstrated for black girls and boys in America and elsewhere that perseverance, talent, know-how, and sweat can overcome seemingly insurmountable barriers.

He was a dynamic achiever, a trailblazer. He was the former chair of the Democratic National Convention, and as our nation's highest business envoy he drummed up a record \$80 billion worth of contracts for American services and goods overseas. He reached out to South Africa and China among others on 15 trade missions to more than 25 countries. It is truly tragic to lose such a dynamic go-getter.

But many of us can't shake the feeling that there was something fishy about Brown's very sudden demise in a plane that the previous week had carried Hillary and Chelsea Clinton. Some of the question marks come from the early "reports" that a black box had been found—reports that were later discounted by military officials.

Sending a strong anti-violence message

by Sharon Khadijah Vincent



The recent second degree murder conviction rendered against Martell Welch, a Detroit man who brutally beat and terrorized

33-year-old woman named Deletha Word in Detroit, MI last August, hopefully will be helpful in sending a message to individuals who commit senseless and violent crimes, that they will be held accountable for their actions and behavior.

The Foreman of the jury, William Brown, stated that the jury, "I want to make a statement to the young men of this city, that you can't go around

beating young ladies. The police aren't going to take it anymore. If you are a man who puts your hand on a woman, you'd better think twice. You might end up in the same predicament as Mr. Welch."

This case received a lot of publicity, because the incident dramatically highlighted the callousness, cruelty, apathy, complicity and brutality, gripping our society. Mr. Word jumped to his death off a bridge because Martell Welch had dragged her out of her car, tore her clothes off, viciously beat and terrorized her with a tire iron.

While all of this was taking place, an estimated crowd of approximately 40 people, just stood by and watched, without intending to stop the assault. Welch, is 6'4" tall and weighs about 260 lbs. Mr. Word was only 5'1"

It was also very curious timing in that the announcement of the capture of a suspect in the Uni bomber case, which occurred on the same day, upstaged Brown's crash.

The evening news on several mainstream TV networks aired the Uni bomber story first, and then followed up with the story of Brown's plane crash. Certain mainstream newspapers did the same thing.

The origin of the greatest suspicion, however, is the "suicide" of one of the persons connected with the landing site. This is big news. One would think that the loss of an official as important and powerful as Ron Brown and the heads of some American corporations would receive far more attention than it is receiving.

For example, where are the ongoing, point by point investigative reports about the findings surrounding the crash investigation? Sure, there are tidbits here and there, but not the ongoing that we've come to expect from an event of this magnitude.

No doubt this may seem somewhat redundant to many, but it doesn't erase the fact that there remain a lot of

tall and weighed 115 lbs. The crime was sickening, and the fact that so many people stood by and watched the attack, is a very sad commentary on society's moral decline.

Martell Welch's defense attorney tried to make the jury believe that the reason that Mr. Word jumped to his death after Welch had brutally beat her, was due to the fact that she had used the drug PCP. The attorney stated that since PCP can cause hallucinations and mood swings, that this was the reason why Ms. Word chose to jump off the bridge.

The jury rejected that defense, as they should have. Whether Mr. Word had used PCP or not, is no reason for her to have been stripped, and savagely beaten. In fact, witnesses quote Mr. Welch as shouting to Ms. Word

unanswered questions. Isn't it interesting that three other planes landed at the same airport toward which Brown's plane was headed when it crashed into a mountainside three miles off-course, in the same weather conditions? Why was the plane going in an opposite direction than was required?

Wouldn't air traffic controllers be able to communicate in bad weather overcoming this particular problem? Or is it just old-fashioned racism that makes Brown's death pale in comparison to the Uni bomber story, or is the Uni bomber story naturally of greater importance?

Whatever the truth turns out to be, Secretary Brown will be sorely missed. The Black Press sends condolences to the family and friends. Rest in peace, Ron Brown.

Dorothy Leavell is president of the NNPA and publisher of *The Crusader* newspapers. [This commentary reported here due to its similarity to the title of a recent article in *It Rates about race and political issues*—William Reed]

The retreat from equality

by Manning Marable

For nearly 20 years, the legal standard for implementing affirmative action has been the Bakke decision. In 1978, the Supreme Court ruled that strict racial quotas that guaranteed access and opportunity to blacks, women and other minorities were unconstitutional. However, the high court also declared that race and ethnicity could be significant factors in selecting applicants for colleges, graduate and professional schools.

At that time, many civil rights advocates felt that the Bakke decision was unfair, precisely because it failed adequately to take into account the history and reality of discrimination, and the constructive steps which had to be taken to create greater equality between racial minorities and the white majority.

Last month, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit took a great leap backward from Bakke, in the *Hopwood v. Texas* decision. The details of the case are fairly simple. Cheryl Hopwood and several other whites were refused admission to the University of Texas Law School. They sued, arguing that the school's policies were discriminatory against blacks and Latinos, through a process which permitted different admissions standards for different groups. The attorneys for Hopwood et al said that their clients had been grossly denied their right to "equal protection of the laws" guaranteed by the Fourteenth Amendment.

These arguments basically turned history on its head. For generations, the University of Texas Law School had refused to admit a single African American, solely on racial grounds. Finally, after years of civil rights agitation and litigation, blacks and other minorities were allowed in.

But even after affirmative action programs were implemented, people of color were still underrepresented in the school. Texas's statewide population is currently 11.6 percent African American, and 25.8 percent Latino. By contrast, the Law School's entering class of 1992 was only 8 percent black and 10.7 percent Latino. Whites, as a group remained over-represented statistically.

The U.S. Court of Appeals judges not only sided with Hopwood, but went much further. The court declared that any use of race or ethnicity was illegal, "even for the wholesome purpose of correcting perceived racial imbalances." Admissions decisions had to be based solely on merit, with color or race playing absolutely no role. Furthermore, whites who were denied admission had the right to claim monetary damages for "intentional discrimination."

The impact of this ruling says that universities have no business attempting to diversify their students, faculty or staff on gender, racial and cultural grounds. Purely from racial and educational standpoint, that's nonsense.

Educational excellence is achieved in part when people interact with people from different faiths and nationalities, from divergent cultures and racial identities. Pluralism and diversity should be at the heart of this country's academic institutions, preparing our students to function in an increasingly multicultural, global society.

Moreover, we need to have a honest appraisal about what consti-

tutes "merit." Standardized tests, like the SAT and GRE, are one type of measurement to determine whether a person is "qualified" to be admitted to school.

But there are also many other measurements of "merit," a person's individual efforts to overcome poverty and adversity; the ability to speak different languages and to function in divergent cultures; the experiences in coping with racist and sexist discrimination; and gaining the courage to overcome such obstacles to achieving excellence. If democracy is to function in a pluralistic society, our universities must reflect the full range of knowledge and abilities from diverse communities.

The final ruling on *Hopwood v. Texas* will be made ultimately by the Supreme Court. But what this decision is really about is the elimination of African Americans and other minorities from educational access and opportunity. When the factor of "race" is ignored within a racist, class-stratified society, whites with money, power and prestige will always benefit.

See SHARON page 10

Unlocking health-care insurance for America

by Ted Lapinski

All across New Jersey workers and employers are locked into a bad situation because they cannot obtain affordable health insurance.

Today, legislation sponsored by Senator James A. Cassamano (R-KS) and Edward M. Kennedy (D-MA) promises to unlock health care insurance for millions of Americans. The Kassamano-Kennedy Insurance Reform Bill would help and discrimination by insurance companies against people who have a pre-existing medical condition.

The bill would also provide people who had been covered by a group plan with a guarantee that they could purchase individual coverage if they were no longer part of the group.

Under many current state laws, if a worker or a family member has a serious ailment, like cancer or heart disease, or a chronic illness, like cerebral palsy or multiple sclerosis, an insurance company can refuse to sell group health insurance coverage to the entire group or individual workers

in the group because of pre-existing medical conditions. Insurance companies can also refuse to cover workers in a company if too many of them have serious personal or family health problems.

The Kassamano-Kennedy Insurance Reform Bill would stop these discriminatory health insurance practices that are causing "job lock" for workers across the country. "Job lock" happens when workers are forced to stay up better job opportunities and pass with their current employer in order to keep their health insurance.

The issue of pre-existing medical conditions also prevents many small businesses from offering their workers health insurance. This situation often leads to good workers leaving for jobs with large companies that can afford to offer them health insurance.

The Kassamano-Kennedy bill would allow insurance companies to refuse to offer or renew a group health insurance policy because the ill health of some members made the group a "bad risk." The insurance

industry's practice of using pre-existing medical conditions to restrict coverage also would be limited by the bill.

Insurance companies could lock back only six months into a person's health history for pre-existing medical condition and then would be allowed to refuse coverage for only 12 months. Provisions in the bill would also reduce the 12-month waiting period to one month for every month the person had previous health insurance coverage.

The bill also guarantees policy renewal and prevents cancellation for anyone who has been insured for at least 18 months. It also gives people the right to enroll in an individual health insurance plan within 30 days of leaving a group plan. This protects workers who change jobs or lose a job.

The bill also increases protection for workers who are disabled. In states where current law provides even more effective consumer protections than the Kassamano-

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See UNLOCKING INSURANCE/page 10

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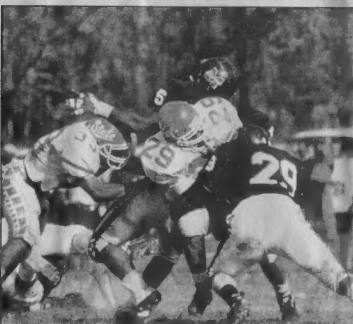
Graffiti vandals come clean



EAST ORANGE—Five Urban Arts Program residents were recognized by the City of East Orange for their creation of the "Key of Knowledge" mural in Lincoln E. Rowley Park on National Youth Service Day on April 22. Former graffiti vandals, these youth have re-focused their lives and are creating points of beauty in approved public spaces. Pictured (front l-r) Councilman Thomas L. Brown, Mayor Cardell Cooper, Shamon Artis, Wesley Woodford and Councilman Leonard D. Clark, Jr. (back row l-r) Kenton Hale, Marcus Hale and Gregory Dutton.

Photo by David Jones

East Orange joins pros to host youth football clinic



EAST ORANGE—On Wednesday, May 15, six professional athletes of the Black Coaches Organization (BCA) will join forces with the City of East Orange's Department of Recreation and Cultural Affairs to host a "Youth Football Clinic" for girls and boys at the Paul Robeson Stadium.

Fabian Thorne, Jamal Williamson, Sha-Mel Simpkins, Tony Pierce, Ron Dickerson, and Reverend Terrence Porter will conduct a four-hour football clinic providing technical instruction along with strong motivational messages including: "Being a Stepping Stone Not a Stumbling Block in the Classroom," and "Respecting Your Teachers."

All-Star players, Thorne, Williamson, Simpkins and Pierce graduated East Orange High School and had successful football careers.

For more information contact Vicki Lewis, Department of Recreation and Cultural Affairs at 201-266-5252. The coed "Youth Football Clinic" is free and open to youth from grades three to eight.

From East Orange, Nyasha London, 10th Grade; Ayanna London, 9th Grade; and Leslie Thomas, 9th Grade honor roll.

From Morrisstown, Joanne Kemmerer, 11th Grade first honors; and Anne Bocella, 9th Grade; and Cristina DeFazio, 8th Grade honor roll.

Honor Roll call

SUMMIT—Area residents have achieved first honors and have been named to the honor roll for the second trimester at Oak Knoll School of the Holy Child. Students who achieve first honors receive no grade lower than an A. Students named to the honor roll receive no grade lower than a B.

From East Orange, Nyasha London, 10th Grade; Ayanna London, 9th Grade; and Leslie Thomas, 9th Grade honor roll.

From Morrisstown, Joanne Kemmerer, 11th Grade first honors; and Anne Bocella, 9th Grade; and Cristina DeFazio, 8th Grade honor roll.

This Week in Black History

- MAY 8**
1791-Phillis Wheatley sells for England. Two years later, her book of poetry, *Poems on Various Subjects, Religious and Moral*, will be published in London.
1912-AME minister Henry McNeal Turner dies in Windsor, Canada.
1917-African-American Jesse Washington burned alive in public square in Waco, TX. Fifteen thousand will look on in the incident known as the "Waco horror."
1925-A. A. Phillip Randolph organizes the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters after failing to integrate the American Federation of Labor.
1985-The Association for the Advancement of Creative Musicians is founded by Mual Richard Abrams.
- MAY 9**
1750-The South Carolina Gazette reports that Caesar, a South Carolina slave, has been granted his freedom and a lifetime annuity in exchange for his cures for poison and rattlesnake bite. Caesar is one of earliest known African-American medical practitioners.
1919-James Reese Europe is killed by enemy bullet member after a concert at Mechanics Hall in Boston.
1952-Jockey and amateur boxer Canada Lee dies in New York.
1974-The House Judiciary Committee formally opens its impeachment hearings against Richard M. Nixon with representatives John Conyers, Jr. (D-Mich.) and Barbara Jordan (D-Tex.) among members of the committee.
- MAY 10**
1775-Lemuel Haynes, Episcopalian Blackman and Primes Black help capture Fort Mifflin during the Battle of Red Bank.
1837-Packman, Remond-Seward (P.B.S.) Packback is born near Macon, Ga. In 1868, he will be elected to the state legislature as a senator.
1876-The American Centennial Exposition opens in Philadelphia, PA. It included are works by four African-American artists.
1950-Jackie Robinson appears on the cover of Life magazine.
- MAY 11**
1895-Composer William Grant Still is born in Woodville, MS.
1933-Louis Eugene Walcott, later known as Louis X or Louis Farrakhan, is born in New York City.
1963-One day after Reverend Fred Shuttlesworth announces agreement on a limited integration plan in Birmingham, AL, his home is bombed and a fire causes.
1981-Literary critic and editor Hoyt J. Fuller dies in Atlanta.
- MAY 12**
1916-Author Albert Murray is born in Nokomis, AL.
1926-California Lieutenant Governor Mervyn Dymally is born in Cedros, Trinidad.
1958-At a summit meeting of national African-American leaders, President Dwight D. Eisenhower is roundly criticized for urging them to "be patient" in their demands for full civil and voting rights.
1967-H Rap Brown replaces Stokely Carmichael as chairman of SNCC.
1991-Hampton University students stage a sit-in protest against President George Bush's commencement address in high light their opposition to his civil rights policies.
- MAY 13**
1871-Alcorn A&M College opens in Lorman, MS.
1891-Isaac Murphy becomes the first jockey to win three Kentucky Derby as he wins the fabled race stride Knigman.
1914-Joseph Louis "The Brown Bomber" Barrow is born in Lexington, AL.
1950-Singer, songwriter Cleveland "Stevie Wonder" Morris is born in Saginaw, MI.
1979-Max Robinson becomes the first network news anchor when he appears on ABC's *World News Tonight*.
1990-George Stalling is ordained as the first bishop of the African-American Catholic Church.
- MAY 14**
1885-Erskine Henderson was the Kentucky Derby riding Joe Cotton.
1913-Clara Stanton Jones is born in St. Louis, MO. She will become the first African-American director of the DuSoye Public Library and the first African-American president of the American Library Association.

Kids' Calendar

- THRU MAY 11**
MONMOUTH—Monmouth County Park System presents 6Creative Adventure for Totos, for children 3 1/2 to 5, on Saturday mornings from 9:30 to 11 a.m. at Tatum Park Activity Center. For more info call 908-842-4000.
- THRU MAY 18**
MONMOUTH—For kids six to eight, Monmouth County Park System has scheduled Performing Arts training at Tatum Park Activity Center, from 10 a.m. to noon. For more info call 908-842-4000.
- JERSEY CITY**—Spanish Enrichment for Children, a ten-part Saturday course at JCSO for children of Hispanic heritage in grades K thru six. For more info call 201-300-3089.
- THRU MAY 30**
NEWARK—The Newark Public Schools' After School Youth Development Program is offering free SAT preparatory sessions on Tues., Wed. and Thurs. at all of the high schools from 2:45 to 4:45 p.m. For more info call Joseph Placide at 201-733-7358.
- THRU MAY 31**
MONMOUTH—Beginner Karate classes for kids six to ten, scheduled by Monmouth County Park System, to be held at Sea Bright Recreation Center from 3:30 to 4:15 p.m. Call 908-842-4000.
- THURSDAY, MAY 9**
TRENTON—Special Education week in New Jersey celebration day from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Masonic Temple. For more info call 609-276-5292.
- FRIDAY, MAY 10**
MANASQUAN—Monmouth County Park System is offering a sand painting class at Manasquan High School. For more info call 908-842-4000.
- SATURDAY, MAY 11**
EDISON—Middlesex County College and the Middlesex County Office of the New Jersey Department of Education will co-host a county-wide fair from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at MCC/ES Physical Education Center. For more info call 908-549-6000, ext. 3312.
- MAY 11 AND 12**
NEW YORK—The Brooklyn Academy of Music presents the second annual International Children's Festival. For more info call 718-636-4100.
- MILLBURN**—Catspaw Puppet Theatre presents Just So Stories for children ages 5 to 10 at 11 a.m. Call 201-376-4343.
- SUNDAY, MAY 12**
EAST ORANGE—The East Orange All-Star Soccer Team to play against Lodi B in the Eliphan Youth Soccer League at 10 a.m. in Sorensen Park. For more info call 201-414-4141.
- MONDAY, MAY 13**
NEWARK—Newark Health and Human Services Department brings their Punch and Judy puppet show to the Early Childhood Learning Institute. For more info call 201-733-4003.

Calendar listings should be sent two weeks in advance to ensure publication

Printmaking Workshop at Plainfield High School

PLAINFIELD—Student's in Margaret Murrey's art class at Plainfield High School had the opportunity to learn the basics of drypoint printing recently at an art education demonstration organized by the Printmaking Council of New Jersey.

Deborah Livingston, a printmaker, demonstrated the drypoint technique to art students. The students then created incised drawings by scratching an image onto plastic plates, inked the plate, and then created a print by pressing the plate against paper in a portable press. The inks and other materials used in the program are non-toxic.

Each student produced a final print within the class time. Livingston noted that, even so, many did not want to leave when the bell rang.

This one-day program is part of the Printmaking Council of New Jersey's Roving Press program. Members of the Council take portable press-



Chantall Brown, a student at Margaret Murrey's Plainfield High School art class is working on a drypoint print.

Photo by Robert Frickson

es to schools, Girl Scout and 4-H meetings, and organizations of the elderly.

For further information about

Plainfield resident wins Beautiful Child Photo Contest

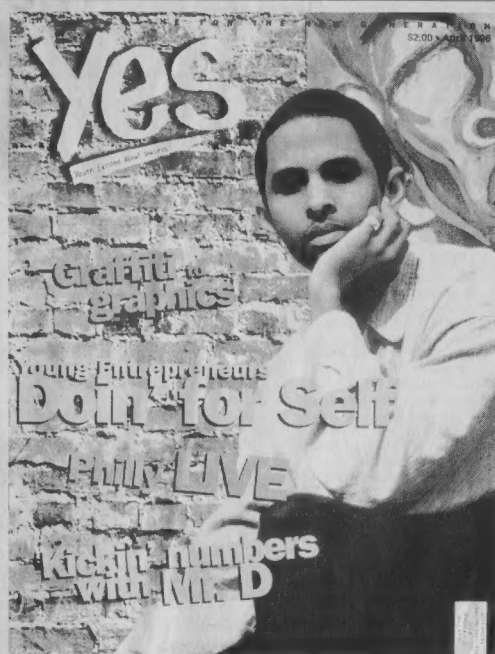
PLAINFIELD—Leonie Carroo, son of Kinzie Chester and Lavern Carroo of Plainfield, recently won first prize in the 13 months to two year category of the "Beautiful Child Photo Contest," sponsored by Mercy Health Plan, First Option Health Plan and Irvington General Hospital.

A recognition ceremony took place on Friday, April 12 at Irvington General Hospital.

Leonie won an age appropriate toy, gift certificates, promotional prizes from both Mercy and First Option, and a large confection box donated by Gifts in Kind.



Pictured from (l to r) Denise Scott of Mercy Health Plan, parents Lavern Carroo and Kinzie Chester holding Leonie, Tariff Watkins, First Option Health Plan and Judith Lodermlick, Vice President, Irvington General Hospital.



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LIFESTYLE S

Religious Calendar

THURSDAY, MAY 17

NEWARK—Presentation of the gospel play *Silver at Symphony Hall*. Shows are Friday 7:30 p.m. and Saturday 2 p.m. For more info and tickets call Viola Symmes at 908-755-5706.

SATURDAY, MAY 11

PLAINFIELD—The Women's Fellowship of Shiloh Baptist Church will host its fifth annual Health Fair from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more info call 908-754-3353.

SUNDAY, MAY 19

NEW BRUNSWICK—The New York Carmelite will perform a benefit concert at Christ Church at 7 p.m. For more info call 908-645-6282.

Health Calendar

MONTHLY

UNION—HIV/AIDS Caregiver support group every 2nd and 4th Thursday at Union Hospital Grand Center at 7 p.m. For more info call 908-686-3117.

THURSDAY, MAY 9

LIVINGSTON—New Jersey Eating Disorders will hold meetings for a free support group persons with anorexia nervosa, bulimia, and compulsive eating problems at 30 p.m. For more info call 1-800-424-2268.

WESTFIELD—"Alcoholism Drug Addiction or Depression: Which Came First?" seminar will be held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence of Union County. For more info call 908-233-8810.

SATURDAY, MAY 11

SCOTCH PLAINS—Union County Voc-Tech Schools sponsors the second annual Health Fair from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more info call 908-889-UGCV.

MONDAY, MAY 13

ELIZABETH—Planned Parenthood of Greater Northern New Jersey is offering low-cost cancer screenings for women over 40 from 2 to 4 p.m. For more info call 908-351-5384.

TUESDAY, MAY 14

BELLE MEAD—Carnar Foundation is holding a free community program for women of emotional, physical or sexual abuse. For more info call 908-281-1518.

Important tips on preventing poisoning

NEWARK—National Poison Prevention Week began by act of Congress in 1961. Using the phrase "Children Act Fast...So Do Poisons," it stressed the need for poison prevention awareness. Although accidental poisonings have decreased in the past thirty years, an estimated 130,000 people are victims of poisoning annually.

Sadly, most of these victims are children under five years of age. According to Daniel I. Shifrin, Assistant Director of Pharmacy at United—The Children's Hospital of New Jersey, "Most poisonings are preventable. Parents can take precautionary measures to protect their children."

Several major factors are:
• Many types of child-resistant packaging which children cannot open, but adults usually can, are: hard-to-tear strip packaging, and specially designed safety caps that must be pushed and turned, or lined up by the arrows. Yet even the best child

resistant containers are only safe when they are used properly.

• Ipecac syrup and treatment: Ipecac syrup should be kept in every home medicine cabinet. It is used to induce vomiting after someone has accidentally swallowed a poisonous substance. After giving Ipecac syrup, vomiting should occur within 20 to 25 minutes after the first dose is given. A second dose, if needed, will cause vomiting in over 90 percent of cases within 30 minutes of the time the first dose was given. Poison Prevention Centers: Over 90 percent of accidental poisonings can be treated at home with proper supervision by highly skilled professionals at the poison control center.

These experts are trained to handle poison related emergencies. They are available 24 hours a day, year-round, and can assist in emergencies, offer advice or answer ques-

tion. The numbers for the New Jersey Poison Control Center are 1-800-962-1233 and 1-800-POISON-1.

• Education about poisons: Poisonings aren't related only to medicines. Chemicals, household cleaners, plants, batteries and paint are all examples of items that can easily become a poison.

People tend to think of poisons as things that are swallowed, but just as much harm can be caused from other types of exposure. A poison may be inhaled, it may contaminate the skin or it may infect the eyes. Different poisons require different treatments and incorrect treatments can do more harm than good.

If accidental poison exposure occurs, call the staff at the NJ Poison Control Center for the correct advice in dealing with the situation.

For more information about United's services, call United HealthSource at 1-800-637-NURSE.

The need for Christian male leadership



FORT MONMOUTH—Major Vincent Amos, United States Army Signal Corps, assigned to Fort Monmouth, speaking at the Pilgrim Baptist Church Fifth Annual Men's Breakfast, on "The Need for Christian Male Leadership in Preparation for Year 2000 and Beyond."

Letter carriers host food drive

PLAINFIELD—The National Association of Letter Carriers, in conjunction with the United States Postal Service, the AFL-CIO, and the United Way of America, will be collecting non-perishable food items on Saturday, May 11, for distribution to local food banks.

Due to the support of postal people, a record donation of 44.4 million pounds of food was provided by postal customers for millions of needy families and individuals last year.

N.A.L.C. Branch 396 members, who deliver in the Plainfield, North

Plainfield, Warren, Watchung and Fanwood areas, will be participating in the National Food Drive. Last year NALC Branch 396 collected over 34,000 pounds of food in the Plainfield Area.

Please place a food donation by your mailbox on Saturday, May 11. Your letter carrier will pick it up and deliver it to local food banks in the Plainfield, North Plainfield, Warren, Watchung, and Fanwood areas or you can drop the food items off at your local Post Office.

For more information call Tom Ewing at 908-322-7273 or 908-754-6955.

New journal to document historic Million Man March

PEORIA, AZ—Masterpiece Publications, owned by Farellecia Pat Proctor (author of *Sentimental Journeys—Reminiscences of a Street Kid*) will debut its publishing career with a 1996 Journal entitled *Keeping the Spirit Alive—A One in a Million Commitment*. The journal will absorb the spirit, purpose and necessity for

the Million Man March instituted by Nation of Islam's leader, Minister Louis Farrakhan.

The book will contain captivating pictures, soul-stirring vignettes, poetry, etc. Also included are special dedications and a list of over 100 African-American inventors.

If you were a participant in the

Helmets reduce the risk of head injury

UNION—As spring slowly settles upon the state, more and more people will take to bike paths, parks and neighborhood streets on their favorite set of wheels. The New Jersey Insurance News Service advises cyclists, in-line skaters and skateboarders wear the proper protective equipment, especially a helmet.

"For biking, skateboarding and the now-popular rollerblading, a helmet can be your most important piece

of safety equipment," says John Tietze, spokesman for the New Jersey Insurance News Service (NJINS). "In the past, the focus was primarily on the use of bicycle helmets. But anyone who is on wheels needs to wear a helmet to protect themselves from serious injury."

Wearing a helmet can drastically reduce the risk of death or serious injury resulting from accidents. "Helmets are designed to absorb most of the impact of a crash before it reaches the brain," explains Tietze.

Bicycle helmets, for example, reduce the risk of head injury by 85 percent and the risk of brain injury by almost 95 percent. According to the Johns Hopkins Injury Prevention Center, head injuries in bicyclists are noted in 65,000 emergency room cases and 70 to 80 percent of all bicycle fatalities annually.

The choice of a helmet is an important one. Most helmets weigh between seven and 14 ounces and

come in a variety of shapes and sizes. NJINS offers the following tips when selecting a bicycle, skateboarding or in-line skating helmet:

1. Choose an approved helmet. Bicycle helmets should bear either an American National Standards Institute (ANSI) or a Snell Memorial Foundation standards decal. These verify that the helmet has passed stringent testing.

2. Make sure the helmet fits properly. A proper fitting helmet should be snug but not tight and should feel comfortable when the strap is fastened.

3. Consider the helmet's composition. Quality helmets have a stiff and

Need a mortgage or refinancing on a low to moderate income? The Mighty Hudson can save you thousands of dollars.

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cupied dwelling in one of the counties shown in the listing below. Private mortgage insurance (PMI) is required on loans over 80% of our appraised value.

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Camden	33,120	Ocean	36,320
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THRU MAY 19

METUCHEN—The Forum Theatre presents the New Jersey premiere of *Sophie, Tote & Belle*. For more info and tickets call 908-548-0200.

TRENTON—Signature by Beth Henley at the Passage Theatre Company. For info call 609-392-0768.

THRU MAY 26

PRINCETON—A Doll House by Henrik Ibsen at the McCarter Theatre For info call 609-583-8000.

MILLBURN—Call Me Madam by Irving Berlin starring Leslie Uggams at the Paper Mill Playhouse. For info call 201-375-4343.

NEW BRUNSWICK—The Screened In at the Crossroads Theatre. For info call 908-249-5550.

NEW BRUNSWICK—The Paintings of Emami Silva will be featured at the Crossroads Gallery. For more info call 908-249-5551, ext. 13.

THRU JUNE 8

NEWARK—Win All Deliberate Speed: Revisiting Race & Education: a historical perspective on desegregation and education, at Allira. For more info call 201-643-4877.

FRIDAY, MAY 10

NEW YORK—Great Performers at Lincoln Center presents American Symphony Orchestra at 8 p.m. at Avery Fisher Hall. For more info call 212-721-6500.

NEWARK—Alvin Ailey Dance Troupe to perform at Newark Symphony Hall at 7 p.m. For more info call 908-478-1886.

NEW YORK—Blue Note/Capitol jazz singer Cassandra Wilson will perform at Town Hall at 7:30 p.m. For more info call 212-307-7171.

MAY 10 AND 11

FANWOOD—The Philatians of Fanwood present A View at the Bridge at the Carriage House at 2:30 and 8:30 p.m. For more info call 908-322-8686.

MAY 10 THRU 12

NEWARK—The African American Heritage Parade Committee, Inc. and African Globe Theatreworks present The Daughters of Lee Roi-Jones at Newark Symphony Hall. For more info call 201-643-4551 or 201-643-4552.

SATURDAY, MAY 11

WATCHUNG—The Garden State International Photography exhibit and competition will be held at 7 p.m. at the Watchung Arts Center. For info call 908-753-0190.

NEW YORK—Jazz at Lincoln Center presents Duke in Hollywood: An Evening of Ellington/Et For Music at 8 p.m. at Alice Tully Hall. For more info call 212-721-4500.

ENGLEWOOD—John Harms Center for the Arts presents This Joint is Jumpin' at 8 p.m. For more info call 201-567-3600.

SUNDAY, MAY 12

NEW YORK—The Skinker will be staged at the Joseph Papp Public Theater at 7 p.m. For info call 212-250-2400.

WESTBURY—L-Father and Son starring Eddie and Gerald Lewis will be at Westbury Music Fair. For more info call 516-334-0800.

SOUTH AMBURY—Club Bnd presents Angela Boffi at 7 p.m. For more info call 908-727-3000.

Calendar listings should be sent two weeks in advance to ensure publication

African Globe TheatreWorks presents The Daughters of Lee Roi-Jones

NEWARK—African Globe TheatreWorks, an independent Newark-based theatre company and an affiliate member of the New Jersey Theatre Group, is staging *The Daughters of Lee Roi-Jones* in association with The African-American Heritage Parade Committee, at Newark Symphony Hall.

The play, a tragic tale of an African American family and its embittered

patriarch, Lee Roi-Jones is an attempt to examine the deep psychological issues that determine the African-American sensibility and the historic ambivalence of people of African descent towards Africa and America.

In keeping with the classic tradition of African-American theatre, it is a soul searching journey into the hearts, minds and shattered dreams of the Roi-Jones family, dramatized from

the point of view of an African playwright.

After experiencing a successful tour *The Daughters of Lee Roi-Jones* now returns to Newark for a two week run at the Newark Symphony Hall, 2nd Floor Theatre Space. From May 3 to 12, Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. and Sundays at 1:30 and 4:30 p.m. For tickets call Symphony Hall Box Office.

Military 'ROCKS' host spring formal and awards banquet



WASHINGTON, DC—ROCKS, Inc., an organization of active duty, retired, reserve and former officers from all military services recently hosted its 22nd Annual Spring Formal and Awards Banquet in the Andrews Air Force Base Officers' Club. Pictured above are the 18 active and retired general officers that attended the affair. General Johnnie E. Wilson, (center), recently promoted to the four-star rank, is commander of the Army Materiel Command, and is the only African-American four-star general currently on active duty in the Army. Next to him is retired Brigadier General Clara Adams-Enders. Formed in 1974, ROCKS, Inc. was named after Brigadier General Roscoe "Rock" Cartwright, who along with his wife, was killed in a commercial airliner crash. Though located in Washington, the group has established an effective network for communication and mutual support that spans the globe. ROCKS is well known for its liaison with the Reserve Officers Training Corps at Historically Black Colleges, assisting with leadership outreach and pre-commissioning orientations for ROTC cadets. This year three ROTC cadets received awards at the banquet. Cadet Sandra Coles, Morgan State University; Cadet Alan Walker, Tuskegee University; and Cadet Cedric Wells, Southern University.

Parade slated for East Orange Memorial Day celebration

EAST ORANGE—East Orange will celebrate Memorial Day with its Annual Memorial Day Parade on Monday, May 27, at 9 a.m.

Veterans slated to represent the four branches of the armed forces include: The East Orange AMVETS Post #70, Lewis Gray D.A.V. East Orange Chapter No. 84, Thomas Kepp Memorial VFW Post #5448, Lewis L. Luckland Post VFW #7923 and the 555th Airborne Newark Chapter.

The annual parade attracts over 1500 city residents along the route which begins at the intersection of Central and So. Arlington Avenues, continuing up Central Avenue to Halsted Street to Main Street, left onto North Arlington and ending at New Street behind East Orange City Hall.

For directions or information contact the City of East Orange, Department of Recreation and Cultural Affairs at 201-414-4141.

Woodson Foundation hosts Literary and Music Festivals



Poet Amiri Baraka

Heath Brothers

NEWARK—A basic rule of writing is to write about what you know. It goes without saying that Amiri Baraka, Claude Brown, and Richard Wesley, know Newark, New Jersey. The interesting question in The Carter G. Woodson Foundation's ninth annual On Stage In New Jersey performing arts series, Newark As An Impetus to Write, is how does knowing Newark show up in their writing?

The question will be answered in a collaboration with the Newark Public Library on Thursday, May 16, at 7:00 p.m. at the Newark Public Library, Newark As An Impetus To Write, is sponsored by the quarterly Black Review of Books. Noted au-

thor, professor and historian, Clement Alexander Price will serve as host. Newark As An Impetus To Write, is the third and final presentation in The Carter G. Woodson Family of Letters Literary Festival. Admission is FREE. Amiri Baraka, Claude Brown and Richard Wesley will read from work inspired by their home town of Newark.

On Friday, May 10, at 8 p.m. at the Van Fossen Theatre, Bloomfield the Woodson Foundation hosts Heath Family Music: 150 Years and Counting! Their will also be an honor paid to the latest Heath—James Mume. This event, sponsored by the WBGO/ 88.3 FM, will showcase the talented family as they explore the richness of their own musical history.

Artists welcome to compete for solo shows

WATCHUNG—Seven one-person shows will be awarded in a competition open to all artists throughout the area. These solo shows will be scheduled over the next year in the Lower Gallery at the Watchung Arts Center.

In addition, all submitted work will be reviewed for inclusion in exhibits planned for the Center's main gallery during the 1997 season. Entries are

limited to two-dimensional paintings and photography only, with no sculpture accepted.

There are no limitations on residency, subject matter, media, etc., except that winners must be able to hand deliver their work for exhibition. All accepted work must be for sale, with the Watchung Arts Center taking a modest commission on all sales.

Artists wishing to enter the juried

competition must submit up to three clearly labeled slides by the May 20 deadline. A check for the \$35 entry fee must be included, plus a résumé and a study self-addressed envelope with return postage.

Entry material should be sent to Juried Competition, Watchung Arts Center, on the Watchung Circle, Watchung, NJ 07060. A full prospectus may be requested with a SASE or by calling 908-753-0190.

The Negro's Burial Ground to appear at The Kitchen

NEW YORK—Five years after the discovery of an 18th Century African Burial Ground in lower Manhattan, The Kitchen presents the Premiere of *The Negro's Burial Ground: A Cantata For The Deported*, a performance piece inspired by the 1991 event.

This musical theatre work is by composer Leroy Jenkins and librettist Anne T. Greene, directed by Dominic Taylor. Greene's story is a fantasy of African-American redemption which brings forth the inhabitants of the desecrated site as confused and reluctant witnesses to the contemporary world.

An exhibition of photographs from the African Burial Project, as well as tombstone rubbings will be on display in The Kitchen's second floor theatre throughout the performance run. A "Conversation with the Artists" (Jenkins, Greene and Taylor) will follow the performance on May 17. A free panel discussion, *The Burial Ground: Fairmory, History, Politics*, will be held on May 18 at 7 p.m.

The Kitchen is located at 512 West 10th Street (between 10th & 11th Avenues). Performances are at 8 p.m. May 16-18 & 23-25, and 3 p.m. May 19 & 26. Information and reservations for events at The Kitchen may be obtained by calling 212-255-5793.

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Newark Distance Classic gets large turnout



NEWARK—Hundreds of runners recently embarked on the 1996 running of the "Newark Distance Classic (NDC)" road race, sponsored by the Newark Division of Recreation and Cultural Affairs (DORCA) and co-sponsored by Boro's Furnishings of Newark. The competition was held recently at the University of Rutgers-Newark and consisted of three separate races: the Two-Mile "Fun Run," the 5-K Race, and the main event—the 20-K Run. Joseph Kariuki, 26, from Kenya captured the \$2000 first-place prize for the 20-K with a time of 1:01:10. The women's 20-K title, also carrying a \$2000 first-place prize, was won by Cindi Girard, 34, with a time of 1:12:35. Girard, who lives in Red Bank, New Jersey, is a past winner of the race. Jackson Kipngok set the course record in 1994 with a time of 1:00:06.

Unlocking healthcare insurance

Continued from page 4

Kennedy bill, those laws would take precedence. So would more stringent state regulations protecting health insurance renewal rights and restricting the use of preexisting medical conditions.

The U. S. Senate is scheduled to take up the Kassebaum-Kennedy health-insurance reform legislation in mid-April. The bill was unanimously approved by the Senate's Labor and Human Resources Committee last year and currently enjoys strong bipartisan support.

It is critically important that everyone who wants to end health-insurance discrimination call or write Senator Bill Bradley and urge him to vote for the Kassebaum-Kennedy bill. This bill

should be passed by the Senate without any amendments.

I also encourage you to call or write Senator Frank Lautenberg, who is a co-sponsor of this bill, and let him know that you support the Kassebaum-Kennedy bill.

The Health Insurance Association of America, which opposes the Kassebaum-Kennedy bill, is attempting to amend the measure and remove protection for groups and individuals. Any attempt to modify this carefully crafted legislation could assure its defeat. It cannot afford to lose this modest, but real, opportunity to make health insurance more available to workers and employers.

This bill is not a total solution to all

our health-insurance problems, but it is an important first step. Passage of this measure should start us down the road to health-insurance reform and will help to open the "lock" on people who want to change jobs and employers who want to insure their workers.

The American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) believes no one's family life or business future should be hurt by unfair health-insurance practices. All workers and employers should have free and fair access to insurance that provides protection and offers them peace of mind.

Ted Lapinski is the AARP/VOTE State Coordinator American Association of Retired Persons.

News

Continued from page 4

BOGLE NAMED TO BI-STATE BOARD

Robert Bogle, president and CEO of The Philadelphia Tribune and former president of the NNPA, was named to the board of the Delaware River Port Authority. The governor feels (Bogle) will be a superb member of the authority and a breath of fresh air for the DRPA leadership," said Tim Reeves, a spokesman for Gov. Thomas Ridge. Said Joseph Loeper, a board member and inter-Senate Majority Leader: "Mr. Bogle is a welcome addition to the authority, particularly because of his sensitivity to the city and the region and their problems."

—PHILADELPHIA, PA

MADAME WALKER URBAN LIFE CENTER GETS NEW PRESIDENT

Sandra Smith, a longtime arts administrator, was recently named president of the Madame C.J. Walker Urban Life Center, a black arts preservation and promotion group in Indianapolis, IN. Smith, formerly the deputy director of the Martin Luther King Jr. Cultural Arts Complex in Columbus, Ohio, has served on several arts boards and committees, and has been active in a variety of local, regional and national arts activities. The center is named after Madame C.J. Walker, the first black American female millionaire entrepreneur.

Dr. Flemming featured at book signing

NEWARK—The Friends of Dr. Sheila Y. Flemming is a committee in a commitment to expose young people and their families to the rich African-American heritage will present to the public Dr. Flemming's newly released book *Bethune-Cookman College 1904-1994: The Answered Prayer To A Dream*, in a book signing on Sunday, May 19, from 2 to 4 p.m. at St. James Church.

Sheila Flemming, an alumna and Assistant Professor of History at Bethune-Cookman College has produced a hardcover volume with over 275 historic photographs many nev-

UNPUBLISHED STORIES BY RALPH ELLISON IN NEW YORKER

Two unpublished stories by the late novelist Ralph Ellison recently appeared in The New Yorker magazine's special "Black in America" issue, edited by Harvard scholar and New Yorker contributor Henry Louis Gates. The two stories were among six discovered last February in an imitation leather briefcase long forgotten under his dining room table. Ellison is known worldwide as the author of "Invisible Man," long considered one of the classics of 20th century American literature.—NEW YORK

er published. Dr. Flemming who has taught at Edward Waters College, The University of Texas, Prairie View, University of Maryland and Howard University says that "as an alumna of the college and trained historian, I felt obligated to write the book because there was no history of the college at the time."

In addition to the book signing on May 19, Dr. Flemming will speak at the National Council of Negro Women's "Annual Bethune Recognition Day Luncheon" on Saturday, May 18, at the Landmark Inn in Woodbridge, New Jersey.

Home buyer educational workshops and housing fair

PLAINFIELD—The City of Plainfield is hosting a series of workshops designed to educate housing consumers. The workshops will take place on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m., at two different sites in the city and will cover home maintenance and inspections, and mortgage options and available products.

The city will also be hosting a first time homebuyer's housing fair on Saturday, May 18 at 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Union County College's Plainfield Campus Cafeteria. Two panel discussions will be held at 10 a.m. and 12 p.m. to provide information for fair visitors. Panelists will discuss topics such as credit, underwriting, the role of an attorney & Realtor in the home purchasing transaction, as well as funding available for closing costs and down payment assistance for low to moderate income households. The workshops and fair are open to the general public.

For additional information, call the Division of Planning and Community Development at 908-753-3391.

Save McCreary Report

Continued from page 1

Bill McCreary, I am sure you would never have seen my medical ideas expressed on the tube. Every major TV station has a physician giving medical advice.

You would think that there are no other African-American physicians who are capable of giving health information to a TV audience.

I strongly believe that we must preserve this type of African-American news programming and insist that Fox-TV reinstate *The McCreary Report*.

If you feel that this program has fulfilled your news needs, please call the news department of Fox-TV at 212-452-5555 and let them hear your affirmative voice. As Jesse Jackson would say, "Keep hope alive." I say to you, keep *The McCreary Report* alive.

EOHHSI gets federal grant to employ minorities

PISCATAWAY—As a result of a federal grant the Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences Institute (EOHHSI) will train 40 minority men and women from Jersey City to remove lead from homes in that community.

Karen Denard Goldman, an EOHHSI member and an assistant professor of urban studies and community health at Rutgers, has received a \$87,500 grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for the multi-session training program, the last session will be June 11.

The program, known as the Horizon Lead Abatement Program, is a collaborative effort with the Horizon Health Center, Jersey City.

Similar programs are being sponsored in 13 communities nationwide and are designed to address both the unemployment and the lead poisoning problems confronting low-income communities. Research has linked lead poisoning to lower IQ scores and behavioral problems in children.

Training session will focus on the removal, handling, disposal and transportation of lead-based paint and materials containing lead-based paint.

It's all there, the blood and gore, and scenes that contain the most realistic and graphic depiction of violence. Usually, they get the loudest and most vociferous responses from the audiences. It's no fluke that the movies containing violence, nudity and profanity, generally make the most money.

Movies, television shows, records, etc. are not the reasons for the wide scale violence we have permeating our society, but the popular culture reflects the attitudes, viewpoints, and opinions about this issue.

We need to look at these factors to see what we can do to help promote a healthier mentality among people. We shouldn't go to either extreme, either

to the right or the left on this issue. Censorship isn't the answer. People taking greater responsibility for their behavior, promoting good ethics and principles are where our focus should lie.

Hopefully, before we sink further into an abyss of decay and violence, people will come together in their local communities to address this important issue. Those individuals who stood complacently by and watched Ms. Word being beaten, hopefully, have searched their souls, and did some inner reflections.

Do we really want to become so apathetic that we risk losing our own souls and sense of morality? If it's something we all need to think about, as we put this unfortunate tragic episode behind us.

Rescue

Continued from page 1

died en route to a hospital. His recovery party would "treat the crash until dawn, still eight hours away."

Given the difficulties of communication, finding the wreckage, transportation and weather, Canavan has defended the slow U.S. military action: "Putting that together, that was a very quick response," he said.

The crash of the T43, the military's version of the Boeing 737, remains under investigation. The log, dated April 10 and obtained by AP, never mentions Brown's name. He and his Commerce Department entourage were on a trade

mission with U.S. businessmen to the former Yugoslavia. Croatian pathologist Siman Adjanovic, who examined bodies from the crash, has said that most showed injuries so grave that not even swift medical aid or rescue would have saved their lives.

Croatian police and civilians, including a medic, reached the crash site within five hours after the plane disappeared from radar at 2:52 p.m. (7:52 a.m.) The U.S. military, on the other hand, spent a frustrating day responding to false reports of debris and bodies in the Adriatic and trying to reach the crash site.

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